

take the world than any further accentuation of the world's divisions upon lines of race. The British Empire has done a signal service for humanity in abridging these divisions in the past. Loyalty to king and Emperor is the Asiatic people's proof. To depart from that policy, to fail in that duty, would not only greatly increase the danger of an international war, but it would divide the British Empire against itself. Our foreign policy can never range itself in any sense upon differences of race and civilization between the East and the West. It would be fatal to the empire. We look confidently to the Government and the people of the United States for their sympathy and understanding in this respect.

"The friendly cooperation of the United States is for us a cardinal principle, dictated by what seems to us the proper nature of things—dictated by instinct quite as much as by reason and common sense. We desire to work with the great Republic in all parts of the world. Like it, we want stability and peace on the globe in all parts of the world. Like it, we desire to avoid the growth of armaments, whether on the Pacific or elsewhere, and we rejoice that American opinion should be showing so much earnestness in that direction at the present time.

"We are ready to discuss with American statesmen any proposal for the limitation of armaments which they may wish to set out, and we can undertake that no such overtures will find lack of willingness on our part to meet them.

"In the meantime we cannot forget that the very life of the United Kingdom, as also that of Australia and New Zealand, is built upon sea power, and that sea power is necessarily the basis of the whole Empire's existence. We have, therefore, to look for measures which our security requires. We cannot possibly be content with less."

Canadian Envoy in United States.
The Prime Minister referred to the proposal that Canada have an envoy in Washington.

"One change which has taken place since the war is the decision by the Canadian Government to have a Minister of its own in Washington," he said. "It is a very important development. We have cooperated willingly with it and will welcome a Canadian colleague in Washington as soon as the appointment is made.

"Admiring over such things as the strike of the coal miners and other labor troubles in the British Isles and glowing apparently the insuperable difficulties in connection with Poland and the Near East, he counted upon his fingers the fruits of the allied victory. They are, as he enumerated them:

The German fleet destroyed.
The German army reduced from a million men to a little more than a hundred thousand.

German armament either scrapped or turned over to the Allies.

He referred to the fact that nearly all the parties interested had now agreed to the reparations scheme adopted and said that Lord Curzon hoped that upon his return here from Paris to be able to report that both the Polish and the Near Eastern problems were in a fair way to settlement.

"And when they are settled," he said, "then only can we say that peace has arrived despite all the peace treaties we have signed."

Colonial Troops' Help.

It was then that he referred to the Anglo-Japanese relations and declared that without the aid of the Australian and New Zealand troops which Japan had conveyed while enemy vessels still infested the Pacific, Lord Curzon would today be not settling the final details of a victorious peace, but would be trying to get the best terms possible from the conquering Germans. These colonial troops, he said, enabled the Allies to hold on until the American troops came in and decided the conflict.

During this part of his speech the Prime Minister hammered in two dominant ideas—that the war had revealed the British Empire as something nobody could attack with impunity and that "friendly cooperation with the United States is for us a cardinal principle."

The Prime Minister stressed the point that the Dominions and India had now indubitably taken their places as nations of the world by their signatures to the peace treaties, as well as by their part in the war, but that both war and peace have demonstrated that these sister na-

Britain Concerned in U. S. Attitude on Jap Alliance

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau. London, June 20.

IN diplomatic circles great interest is manifested in the probable attitude of the United States should the Anglo-Japanese alliance be renewed. It has been suggested that if this step is taken Premier Hughes of Australia would return home by way of the United States, where he would make a series of speeches explaining the situation in the Pacific as it affects Great Britain, Japan and the dominions.

tions are united by insoluble bonds with the Empire. He invited them to take part in any steps the British Empire in advising the Empire's foreign policy or that would give them greater power in the Empire's action.

"The British Government has been under some suspicion in some quarters of harboring designs against this gathering as a conference," he continued. "We were said to be dissatisfied with the present state of the Empire and to wish to alter its organizations in some revolutionary way. Gentlemen, we are not at all dissatisfied. The British Empire is progressing very satisfactorily from a constitutional standpoint, as well as in other ways."

Glad to Get Suggestions.

It was then that he referred to the welcome his Government would accord a "Canadian colleague in Washington," adding:

"We will be glad to have any suggestions that occur to you as to the methods by which the business of the dominions in London, so far as it passes through our hands, may be transacted with greater dignity and efficiency, although you will agree that the empire owes much to Lord Milner and Lord Long for their services in the Colonial Office during a period of great difficulty and stress. Also we will welcome any suggestions you may have to make for associating yourselves more closely with the conduct of our foreign relations. Any suggestions you make which we will be delighted to hear and discuss."

"On all matters of common concern we want to know your standpoint and we want to tell you ours. I will give you my general conception of mutual relationship which is met."

"The British dominions and the Indian Empire, one and all, played a great part in the war for freedom. In recognition of their services and achievements in the war the British dominions have now been accepted fully into the community of nations by the whole world. They are signatories to the Treaty of Versailles and all the other treaties of peace; they are members of the assembly of nations and their representatives are already attending the league. In other words, they have achieved full national status and now stand beside the United Kingdom equal partners in the dignities and responsibilities of the British Commonwealth."

"If there are any means by which this status can be rendered even closer to our own communities and the world at large, we will be glad to have them forwarded at this conference."

Empire a Living Force.

The Prime Minister declared that the "war demonstrated and, I might say, revealed, to the world, including ourselves, that the British Empire is not an abstraction, but a living force which is to be reckoned with."

"Who would have believed before the war that the Empire outside of Great Britain could raise so many millions and more soldiers and send them to the battlefields to serve a common cause side by side with the United Kingdom?" he continued. "So ardent a soul as Joseph Chamberlain never predicted so impressive a rally around the flag. This opportunity revelation of the British Empire, in my judgment, altered the history of the world."

"There are of us who know—and many, if not most of us here during the most critical hours of the war sat at the same table—those of us know how low was the margin between victory and defeat, and we can proclaim that without these 2,000,000 men who came from outside the United Kingdom, Prussianism probably would have triumphed east and west before the American troops arrived on the stage, and Lord Curzon, who is at this moment discussing with Premier Briand (of France) the execution of the victorious treaty, would have been discussing how best to carry out the humiliating conditions dictated by the triumphant war lords of Germany. A reign of unbridled force would have been supreme and this generation would have had to spend its days interpreting and enduring that calamitous fact in all spheres of human activity and influence. The unity of the British Empire saved France, Great Britain and civilization from such a catastrophe."

"Our present troubles are had enough. Victory has its cares as well as has defeat, but they are ephemeral and are soon surmounted. Defeat would have reversed the engine of progress and democracy and driven it back centuries on its tracks. If I may venture to quote what I said in the Imperial conference in 1907, when I said in reference to the Empire: 'We agree with our colonial counterparts of the Dominions that all this unity is worth a concerted effort, even if the effort at the outset costs us something. A federation of free commonwealths is worth making some sacrifice for. One never knows when its strength will be essential to the great cause of human freedom, and that is priceless.'"

"I venture to say that this prediction has been gloriously proved by great

events. The British Empire is saving the face of a world of divided world. It is the most hopeful experiment in human organization the world has yet seen. It is not so much that it combines men of many races, tongues, traditions and creeds under one system of government. Other empires have done that, but the British Empire differs from all of them in one essential respect. It is based not on force, but on good will and a common understanding. Liberty in its binding principle. Where that principle is not applied it is being gradually introduced into the structure. It is that willing and free association of many nations and peoples that their conference represents."

"Think what we stand for in this room today. First of all was the long political development of the British Isles, with all their splendors and pains, the crucible from which the framework of the whole structure emerged. Canada, British and French; South Africa, British and Dutch, both are now great dominions whose unity is due to the free, willing combination of two proud races in a single nationhood. Australia and New Zealand are British civilizations, both, but they were planted and developed with a genius of their own and by the labor of their own people. Their people in the extreme Antipodes. India is a mighty civilization whose rulers were known and respected throughout the Western world before the first English post was planted on Indian soil. Side by side are these wonderful, varied colonies and protectorates in their different stages of development, which the Secretary of State for the Colonies here represents."

"All the marvelous achievement of our peoples this gathering reflects. I am mostly deeply impressed with the blending of the East and the West—India, with her far descended culture, her intensely varied types, so different from ours, presents in this room a concert of common policy with us and harmonizing, in its scope, still more completely her civilization and ours. It is our duty here to present the ideals of this great association of peoples in their willing loyalty to one sovereign and to take counsel together on the progress and welfare of all, and to keep our strength, moral and material, and our united power for justice, liberty and peace."

The Prime Minister spoke glowingly of India's achievements in the war, saying: "India's achievements also are very great. Her soldiers lie with ours in all the theatres of war and no Briton can ever forget the gallantry and the promptitude with which she sprang forward in the King and Emperor's service. Her soldiers are still serving far from their homes and families in a common cause."

"India's loyalty in that great crisis is eloquent to me of the Empire's success in bridging civilization East and West and in reconciling wide differences in the history and tradition of the races, bringing the spirit and the great genius of the Asiatic people into willing cooperation with our own. Important changes have been effected in India this year and India is making rapid strides toward control of her own affairs. Also, she has proved her right to her new status in our councils. That status she gained during the war and has maintained during peace."

Premier Meighen of Canada, as representative of the senior Dominion, was the first speaker on the programme after Mr. Lloyd George. He confined himself merely to a preliminary statement of his understanding of the scope and functions of the conference. After Premier Meighen's address, the conference adjourned for the day.

It is understood that Premier Smuts of South Africa intends to make an extended address on the British foreign policy, particularly in regard to steps arising out of the Treaty of Versailles.

BRITISH MINERS PLAN TO WIN AT ANY COST

LONDON, June 20.—Leaders of the Miners Federation of Great Britain took no steps yesterday to prevent the withdrawal of the government's offer of a \$10,000,000 subsidy to the coal industry. The situation is full of uncertainty. The call of the Miners Union to all trade organizations affected by the wage dispute to meet at an early date for the purpose of taking national action to obtain mutual demands is regarded as an S.O.S. prompted by desperation. "The fight is now taking on an entirely different character," said A. J. Cook, a South Wales labor leader. "The whole body of the British miners is going into the struggle for socialization, or nationalization, of the mines. It is going to be a fight directly against the government."

HARDING WILL NAME SHIP CLAIM ARBITRATORS

WASHINGTON, June 20.—President Harding has approved a suggestion of the Shipping Board that settlement of approximately \$200,000,000 in claims against the board be placed in the hands of a board of three arbitrators, to be appointed by the President. It was announced today at the Shipping Board. Heretofore the Shipping Board has acted in the capacity of both defendant and judge in the matter of claims. Chairman Leaker explained. Most of the claims have resulted from cancellations of contracts by the board, one of them being for \$20,000,000 and others ranging from \$8,000,000 downward. Some of them were plainly too high. Chairman Leaker said, adding that delayed settlement had caused them to mount. The members of the arbitration board would consist of a lawyer, an auditor and a technical man, all of national standing and reputation.

BERLIN WORKMEN DEMAND JOBS, FIGHT THE EMPLOYED

Enter Labor Union Assembly, Beat President and Wreck Building to Which He Is Taken, While Police Have Difficulty in Quelling Riot.

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, June 20.—Thousands of unemployed workmen today entered the Labor Union Assembly and demanded that all workmen who had had steady employment should give up their jobs in order that the idle workmen might be employed. The president of the Labor Union Assembly was badly beaten with blackjacks and left bleeding on the floor.

The fight spread until five thousand persons were employed, using flats, chairs and sticks. Repeated alarms brought several hundred police to the scene, who cleared the building after the uproar had continued for two hours. The injured president was taken to a

nearly restaurant, the doors of which were locked.

The unemployed demonstrators, however, attacked this building, broke in the doors and windows and demolished the furniture. The president was taken out by the back way and hurried to a place of security. A rumor that the president had died, although it was officially denied by the police, added to the excitement.

The trouble began while the Labor Union Council was in session. The unemployed were holding a demonstration outside the building and sent delegates into the hall to lay their demands before the council. As soon as these were made the council broke up its session and fighting began.

ALLIES FAVOR PLAN FOR DEBT GUARANTY

Commission Expects to Ratify Scheme to Mobilize German War Obligations.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau. Paris, June 20.

Reparations Commission officials today expressed the belief that the French plan for mobilizing Germany's debt to the Allies by having the latter issue separate bonds, bearing their own guaranty, for the sum of the German bonds handed to them by the commission, as was the case in the case of the German bonds, would be ratified by the commission.

All inquiries from England and from Belgium have shown that approval of the scheme there is general, and the limitation that American financiers favor the proposal is considered here as pre-facilitating the long awaited American help in solving the commission's biggest problem.

Allied financial representatives will meet in Paris again Friday to discuss the reparations problems, including German coal prices and the distribution of the remaining 6 1/2 per cent. of the reparations payments, in regard to which unanimity in the commission is not yet possible. Inasmuch as these representatives have full authority from their respective finance ministries, the latest plan for realizing on the German pledges toward control of her own affairs. Also, she has proved her right to her new status in our councils. That status she gained during the war and has maintained during peace."

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SCORES IN MONT CENIS MINE DIE IN EXPLOSION

Fire Damp Blows Up, 22 Bodies Found, 180 Missing.

Genève, Switzerland, June 20.—An explosion of fire damp today destroyed the greater part of the Mont Cenis mine. Up to tonight twenty-two men were known to be dead and a large number injured.

Of the 300 who were in the mine at the time of the disaster only 120 are accounted for.

ELKUS IS ASSAILED AT LEAGUE COUNCIL

Ex-Premier of Sweden Attacks Decision of Commission on Aland Islands.

By the Associated Press.

GENEVA, June 20.—Hjalmar Branting, former Premier of Sweden, at today's public session of the council of the League of Nations attacked the report of the Allied Commission on the dispute between Finland and Sweden over the Aland Islands in the Baltic, which recommended the islands be given to Finland. He was particularly severe upon Judge Abram I. Elkus, the American member of the commission, who, he said, "diminished the importance of his own mission and detracted from the prestige of his own decision by declaring the Aland Islands question to be insignificant."

M. Branting demanded a plebiscite on the principle of self-determination for peoples, and declared neutralization of the islands was necessary for Sweden's security.

The Finnish representative, M. Enckell, declared his country would never consent to part with the islands. The council reserved decision, which will probably be announced before the end of the session. All indications point to its being favorable to Finland.

Later in the day the council closed its doors and announced its sessions would be secret. The members engaged in a sharp controversy, several of them demanding open doors, which was opposed stoutly by the Italian delegate, the Marquis Imperiale. When finally the council made up its mind to give out its deliberations on the Elkus question there were no press representatives present at league headquarters.

M. Rault, president of the Sarre Valley Governing Commission, replied to the German complaints on the garrisoning of French troops in the territory and also the expulsion of German functionaries connected with the strikes in August, 1920, and the use of French money in the territory. He said troops were necessary to protect lives and property in case of trouble, such as was likely to develop from strikes similar to that which the functionaries attempted to foment last year.

The council approved the presence of troops, but suggested that the commission arrange to reduce the number as far as possible. There are at the present time 7,000 troops in the Sarre district, including some blacks, but the latter are about to be sent away.

2 STEAMSHIPS BURN OFF BARREN ISLAND

The Polar Bear and City of Omaha Towed Out Into Bay Still Afire.

WAREHOUSE WENT FIRST

Then Flames Spread to Docks and Leaped to Vessels Despite Crews.

The United States Shipping Board steamships Polar Bear and City of Omaha, tied up at a dock off Barren Island, in Jamaica Bay, caught fire last night after the flames had destroyed the docks and a large concrete warehouse several hundred feet long owned by the New York Sanitary Disposal Company. Early this morning the vessels were still burning, although they had been towed out into the bay and the Fire Department had the flames under control. Two other ships which were also at the docks were in danger but were taken away by tugs before the fire reached them.

According to information reaching Manhattan, the fire started in the Disposal company's building, which has been in use for a year and from which all of the machinery is being removed. It spread rapidly because of the scanty equipment for fire fighting on the island, and quickly set fire to the docks at which the Polar Bear, the City of Omaha and the other two ships were moored. The two first named ships caught soon after the docks began to burn, in spite of the efforts of their crews and the crews of the remainder of the fleet of Shipping Board vessels tied up in the roadstead.

The first news of the fire was received in New York by the Naval Communications Office, which received a radio message from the City of Omaha. The Communications Office at once got in touch with the marine division of the Police Department, and the fire boat William J. Gaynor started for Barren Island.

The Polar Bear is a vessel of about 4,500 tons, built in 1918 by the Shipping Board at Baltimore. The City of Omaha is of about 6,500 tons and was built at Wilmington, N. C., in 1919.

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